His Excellency,
The Earl of BELLOMONT'S
SPEECH
TO THE

Honorable the COUNCIL and Houſe of Repreſentatives, Conven'd in General Aſſembly, at *Boſton*, in His Majeſties Province of the *Maſſachuſetts Bay* in *New-England*, on *Wedneſday* the 29. of *May*. 1700.

Gentlemen,

WHAT I propos'd laſt *May*'s Seſſion for the advantage of the Province in relation to the Settlement of the *Colledge*, and Fortifying this Harbour, was ſo coldly entertain'd by the Aſſembly, That I am almoſt diſcourag'd from renewing my Advice on thoſe heads. Yet my zeal for the Publick Service will not ſuffer me to paſs over in ſilence thoſe two material points. The Settlement of the *Colledge* will beſt be obtain'd in my opinion by Addreſſing the KING for His Royal Charter of Priviledges. And as for Fortifying the Harbour, that is in your own power to do, and will I am perſwaded be pleaſing to the KING, who deſires, and delights in, the welfare and ſecurity of His people.

I am told many of your Miniſters in the remote parts of the Province, have very narrow Stipends, not enough to maintain 'em Decently; 'tis reaſonable you ſhould make them eaſy: with them I recommend to your care the *French* Miniſter of this Town, who is deſtitute of a Maintenance, becauſe there are ſo very few *French* Families here: Let the preſent raging perſecution of the Proteſtants in *France*, ſtir up your Zeal and Compaſſion towards him. I wiſh for your ſakes the *French* Proteſtants had been incourag'd among you, they are a good ſort of People, very Ingenious and Induſtrious, and would have been of great uſe for Peopling this Country, and enriching it by Trade.

You know as well as I the Circumſtances we are in with the Eaſtern *Indians*, that the *French* Miſſionaries have debauch'd 'em from their former Obedience to the KING, and that it was at their Inſtigation they Murder'd ſo many of your People this laſt War; and are now at the Devotion of the *Jeſuits* to act over again ſuch another Tragedy. It ſeems to me that the Suffering *Jeſuits* or other Popiſh Miſſionaries to live in this Province, and poyſon the *Indians* with their groſs Idolatry and Superſtition, is d[illegible] Laws and Government; and I wiſh you w[illegible] delay, make a Law for Puniſhing ſuch [illegible] ſhall at any time preſume to come [illegible]

I am ſorry to tell you, That I find the *French* Miſſionaries are no leſs Induſtrious to debauch our five Nations of *Indians* in the Province of *New York*; taking Indefatigable pains to work on ſome by fear and menaces, on others by Enticement and Flattery; and the Meſſengers I lately ſent to Encourage them, Inform me that ſeveral of our forward Fighting Indians that were beſt affected to us, have lately been diſpatch'd out of the world by poyſon. The parting with *Canada* to the *French*, and the Eaſtern Country call'd *Acädie* or *Nova-Scotia*, with the noble Fiſhery on that Coaſt, were a moſt execrable Treachery to *England*, and intended without doubt to ſerve the ends of Popery. 'Tis too well known what Intereſt that King favour'd, that parted with *Nova-Scotia*, and of what Religion he died. I have now in my hands his Original Order to the Governour of *Nova-Scotia*, to Surrender that Country to the *French*, and 'tis obſervable the Secretary of State that Counter-ſign'd the Order, afterwards died a Papiſt. Such fatal Miſgovernment in the late Reigns, ought to give us the higheſt Veneration and value for his Preſent Majeſty, who is in all reſpects a true Proteſtant KING, both in the watchful and Indulgent Care of His Proteſtant Subjects, and his great moderation to others.

I am Commanded by the KING to Recommend to you the paſſing a Law to prevent the Eſcape of Pyrates and other Offenders out of Priſon, and to puniſh the Keepers of Priſons within this Province, and all other perſons that ſhall be conſenting to or aſſiſting in ſuch Eſcapes.

You would do well to make a Law that ſhall effectually prevent the Clipping and Debaſing the Current Coin, and alſo the Exportation thereof, both which are become too univerſal a practice, and tend very much to the Impoveriſhment of the Province.

The Management of the Eaſtern Indians in ſuch manner as to bring them again under the Obedience of His Majeſty is neceſſary above all other things, and worth your thoughts and care to try to effect.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Repreſentatives,

It will become you to take Care for the Support of the Government, and to provide ſuch Supplies as may beſt ſuit with the Eaſe and Convenience of the people, to you therefore I more particularly Recommend that Service.

BY Vertue of an Order of the Houſe of Repreſentatives, I do Appoint *Bartholomew Green*, and *John Allen*, to Print His Excellency's Speech.

John Leverett Speaker.